

REMARKS

This submission is in response to the Office Action dated May 22, 2003. Reconsideration of the above identified application, in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 14-16 are currently pending with claims 1-13 and 17-20 having been canceled without prejudice in the current amendment.

Applicant appreciates the careful consideration and favorable treatment of the claims in which claims 14-16 were indicated as being allowable.

Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101; however, this rejection is now moot since this claim has been canceled.

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112; however, this rejection is now moot since this claim has been canceled.

Claims 1-13, 17-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a); however, this rejection is also moot in view of the present amendment since these claims are canceled.

Claim 14 has been rewritten into independent form and based on the Examiner's comments that claim 14 contains allowable subject matter, Applicants respectfully request allowance of this claim. Applicants submit that the amendment to claim 14 does not change the scope of the claim and therefore, it should be allowed as the Examiner indicated in the outstanding office action. This amendment is also not a narrowing amendment since claim 14 originally depended from claim 1.

Claims 15 and 16 should be allowed as depending from what should be an allowed independent claim 14.

At this time, allowance of claims 14-16 is earnestly solicited.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: August 19, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

Edward J. Ellis

Registration No.: 40,389
DARBY & DARBY P.C.
P.O. Box 5257
New York, New York 10150-5257
(212) 527-7700
(212) 753-6237 (Fax)
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant